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Foreign CROPS AND MARKETS



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FOR RELEASE

MONDAY

NOVEMBER 10, 1952

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however, to Rice Report
on Page 431 which already
has been released.)

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

L A T E N E W S

Under date of October 17, 1952 the Customs Division of the Canadian Department of National Revenue issued notice that filberts would be transferred from the classification "a class or kind not produced" in Canada, to "a class or kind produced" in Canada.

This change in classification is the result of offers of United States filberts at below the United States domestic price. The Canadian Customs on hearing of these offers made an investigation to determine if Canada produced sufficient filberts to meet the 10 percent stipulation required if a product is to be deemed of "a class or kind produced" in Canada. The finding was that Canadian production does fulfill the requirement and the change in classification therefore became effective November 7. The probable effect of this change will be that special or dumping duties may be applied on shipments invoiced at below the domestic United States prices.

Production of beans in Mexico is indicated to be low for the second successive season. No reliable data are available yet on the size of the 1952 crop; but there has been serious damage from drought, disease and, in some areas, flood. While estimates of the situation vary widely it is expected that the production will not be as low as the 3.7 million bags estimated in 1951, which was 32 percent below 1950 and 10 percent below the 1945-49 average. In view of the low production, Mexico is continuing to import beans from the United States and may continue in future months. United States exports to Mexico in 1952-53, however, likely will be less than the 1.2 million bags in 1951-52.

(Continued on page 448)

FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

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INDIA CASHEW CROP 1952 ESTIMATE REVISED UPWARD

The 1952 preliminary estimate of the India cashew crop has been revised upward to 63,300 short tons, unshelled basis, compared with 67,200 tons (revised) in 1951 and 56,000 tons in 1950. The present estimate exceeds the 10-year (1941-50) average of 48,200 tons by 31 percent and the 5-year (1946-50) average of 49,600 tons by 28 percent. The above figures include Goa as well as India, but not imports from East Africa.

Earlier in the season the forecast for Indian-grown nuts was somewhat less and was based largely on adverse weather conditions. It has now developed that the damage by weather was over estimated and as the harvest has been completed it was discovered that the crop actually was larger than had been expected earlier.

INDIA: Cashew nuts, estimate of production, 1952
with comparisons

(Rounded to nearest 100 short tons)

Year	Unshelled		
	Bombay District	South India	Total
	1/ Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Average:			
1941-50	10,500	37,700	48,200
1946-50	11,000	38,600	49,600
Annual:			
1946	16,800	58,800	75,600
1947	10,100	16,800	26,900
1948	11,800	39,200	51,000
1949	5,300	33,600	38,900
1950	11,200	44,800	56,000
1951 2/	11,200	3/ 56,000	3/ 67,200
1952 2/ 3/	9,500	53,800	63,300

1/ Includes Goa. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Revised.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, results of office research, trade and other information.

The East African crop, the forecast of which last winter at 77,000 short tons was described by the Trade and other sources as being much too high and which was subsequently reduced, now appears to have been close to 71,700 short tons unshelled, according to Indian reports. Available information, is that about 60,500 short tons, unshelled, were imported into India by early September and an additional 11,200 tons are reported awaiting sale into India in East Africa. Early in the 1952 season the Portuguese Government was reported to have allotted 11,200 short tons, unshelled, to East African processors; however, it developed that the processing operations were not successful and the nuts were offered for export to India.

The Indian-grown crop, converted to 50-pound cases, shelled basis, would produce about 632,800 cases and the East African imports converted to the same basis would produce about 717,000 cases, assuming the 11,200 tons released by the Portuguese Government are actually imported into India. The 1952 Indian pack, on the above basis, therefore would be about 1,349,800 cases of 50 pounds each which is somewhat larger than the forecast of June 16, 1952. The present estimate of the Indian pack (including Goa) may be compared with 1,043,320 cases actually exported during 1951. The exportable surplus from the estimated 1,349,800 case-pack, after allowing for carry-over from the 1951 pack and domestic consumption, is about 1,320,000 cases.

UNITED STATES: Imports of cashew nuts

(Crop year, September-August)

Year	SHELLED							Total
	Brazil	Goa	Haiti	India	Mozambique	Other		
	<u>Short</u> <u>tons</u>	<u>Short</u> <u>tons</u>	<u>Short</u> <u>tons</u>	<u>Short</u> <u>tons</u>	<u>Short</u> <u>tons</u>	<u>Short</u> <u>tons</u>	<u>Short</u> <u>tons</u>	
Average:								
1941-50	159	262	41	13,849	16	67	14,394	
1946-50	155	489	40	19,000	30	30	19,744	
Annual:								
1946-47	309	279	51	15,323	8	45	16,015	
1947-48	351	419	23	14,749	0	43	15,585	
1948-49	66	278	12	18,172	0	34	18,562	
1949-50	40	513	30	20,403	0	22	21,008	
1950-51	10	958	81	26,351	141	8	27,549	
1951-52	11	763	48	19,272	348	3	20,445	

Compiled from official records of the Bureau of Census.

Export statistics for the season to date showing country of destination are unfortunately not available at this time. On the basis of official and trade statistics, it appears that 1,071,000 cases from the 1952 pack had been exported to September 1, 1952 compared to 1,043,320 cases exported in the 1951 season. It is estimated now that British importers purchased close to 400,000 cases from this year's pack and according to some London sources, this proved to be in excess of the demand. Recently it was estimated that close to 100,000 cases were on hand in England awaiting buyers. This figure may be somewhat reduced in view of the approaching holidays.

United States imports for consumption during 1952 from January to September 1 totaled 12,688 short tons (507,520 cases) compared with the 1951 calendar year total of 25,252 tons (1,010,080 cases). On a September/August basis the 1951-52 imports to September 1 totaled 20,445 short tons (817,800 cases) compared with 27,549 tons in 1950-51 (1,101,960 cases). During 1951-52 the bulk of the imports as usual were from India, 19,272 short tons, followed by Goa with 763 tons, Mozambique 348 tons, Haiti 48 tons and the balance were from Brazil and other minor producing countries.

The prices of both Indian and African unshelled cashews have been firm in recent months being between 900 RS and 930 RS per ton of 2,240 pounds (about \$189 to \$195.30 per ton of 2,240 pounds). The export quotations c.f. New York were around 58 cents per pound for 320 count and 40 cents for large pieces on June 15, 1952. By September 1, 1952 the following prices were being quoted in South India for September/October shipment:

C & F New York Prices of Cashew Kernels (by grades) for 1952
September and October Shipments

<u>Grades</u>	<u>Per pound</u> <u>U.S.Cents</u>
210 Count Wholes	64
240 " "	62
320 " "	58
450 " "	55
Schorched Wholes	54
Butts	48
Splits	44
Pieces	38
Scorched Pieces	34

It is reported the British have been buying large quantities of broken pieces and small sizes ordinarily neglected by American buyers, thus supporting the market. The exporters in South India believe the present remaining unsold stocks which are estimated to total about 260,000 cases, assuming the 11,200 tons released by East Africa, will be imported and processed will about take care of the remainder of this season's export demand. They believe it might be possible to obtain better prices for the remaining supply.--By Walter R. Schreiber.

ARGENTINA'S SEPTEMBER GRAIN EXPORTS CONFINED TO CORN

Argentine grain exports during September 1952 were confined to 89,000 long tons of corn with 59 percent of it going to France and the balance to other European countries. During the corresponding month a year ago, the country's grain exports amounted to 215,000 tons, over half of it consisting of wheat and the balance of corn, barley and oats.

Exports of grain other than corn have been insignificant for several months because of short supplies resulting from reduced acreage and drought. The 1952 corn crop was also much below normal, having been officially estimated at only 78 million bushels. At that level, the crop was considerably under minimum domestic requirements. Despite that fact, moderate quantities have continued to move into export channels since the beginning of the Argentine corn marketing season last April. Argentine corn is currently being exported to France and other European markets in exchange for wheat purchased in recent months from the United States.

Argentina's Monthly Grain Exports for specified periods 1/

10-Months Dec-Sept.	Wheat	Rye	Corn	Oats	Barley
	<u>bushels</u>	<u>bushels</u>	<u>bushels</u>	<u>bushels</u>	<u>bushels</u>
Average					
1934-35/1938-39....	103,509:	4,268:	195,370:	20,113:	11,616
1950-51.....	86,091:	6,985:	5,691:	6,017:	3,369
1951-52					
December.....	1,521:	674:	1,712:	1,563:	600
January.....	1,272:	966:	4,196:	532:	1,903
February.....	736:	1,167:	2,777:	1,464:	1,581
March.....	55:	1,433:	1,033:	453:	461
April.....	84:	627:	2,135:	67:	835
May.....	118:	3:	2,042:	-	26
June.....	-	189:	1,172:	-	-
July.....	-	-	556:	124:	-
August.....	-	-	2,276:	173:	-
September.....	-	-	3,558:	-	-
Total.....	3,786:	5,059:	21,457:	4,376:	5,406

1/ Argentina's grain marketing season runs from December through November for wheat, rye, oats, and barley, and from April through March for corn.

Argentina Grain Exports during September 1952
and July-September 1952 with comparison

Destination	Wheat	Rye	Corn	Oats	Barley	Total
	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons
September 1952						
Belgium.....	-	-	9,818:	-	-	9,818
Finland.....	-	-	8,553:	-	-	8,553
France.....	-	-	52,863:	-	-	52,863
Switzerland.....	-	-	2,165:	-	-	2,165
United Kingdom.....	-	-	15,551:	-	-	15,551
Total.....	-	-	88,950:	-	-	88,950
September 1951	119,905:	98:	50,164:	9,606:	35,309:	215,082
July-September 1952						
Austria.....	-	-	10,137:	-	-	10,137
Belgium.....	-	-	11,468:	-	-	11,468
Finland.....	-	-	12,195:	2,460:	-	14,655
France.....	-	-	98,596:	-	-	98,596
Germany.....	-	-	-	1,772:	-	1,772
Switzerland.....	-	-	2,165:	-	-	2,165
United Kingdom.....	-	-	25,196:	-	-	25,196
Total.....	-	-	159,757:	4,232:	-	163,989
July-September 1951	497,912:	4,022:	111,815:	36,913:	61,294:	711,956

(The following rice forecast is for immediate release).

WORLD RICE CROP FORECAST AT RECORD LEVEL

The world rice crop in 1952-53 (August-July) is expected to be the largest record, and considerably above that of the preceding 2 seasons, according to the first estimate of the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Growers have continued to increase rice acreage in virtually all areas of production and weather so far this season, unlike that of the last 2 years, has been generally favorable.

The 1952-53 world harvest of rough rice is forecast at 352,000 million pounds (176 million short tons), an increase of 16,000 million pounds (8 million tons) compared with last year's production of 336,000 million pounds (168 million tons). The previous postwar high was 342,000 million pounds (171 million tons) harvested in 1948-49. This season's harvest is 5 percent larger than the 1951-52 crop, 5 percent above the prewar average (1935-36/39-40), and 8 percent larger than the postwar average (1945-46/49-50) outturn.

The harvests now in progress in the Northern Hemisphere generally are yielding larger crops. China, Japan, and Korea have increases in output, and expanded production is being harvested in the northern countries where new areas have been planted in rice. The over-all increase is estimated at 12 percent in European areas of production, and 8 percent in North America.

RICE (rough): Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified countries,
averages 1935-36/39-40 and 1945-46/49-50, annual 1950-51
to 1952-53 1/2

Continent and country	Acreage			Yield per acre			Average			Production		
	Average			Average			Average			Average		
	1935-36 to	1945-46 to	1950-51 2/	1935-36 to	1945-46 to	1950-51 2/	1935-36 to	1945-46 to	1950-51 2/	1935-36 to	1945-46 to	1950-51 2/
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
NORTH AMERICA												
Costa Rica	35	41	55	66	1,066	1,078	1,175	1,321	1,343	1,343	44.2	64.6
El Salvador	26	41	35	40	1,392	1,402	1,349	1,432	1,429	1,429	57.5	47.2
Mexico	96	190	267	250	1,904	1,731	1,184	1,381	1,341	1,341	328.9	316.0
Nicaragua	25	28	40	31	1,080	1,286	1,205	1,364	1,473	1,473	27.0	36.0
Panama	48	124	163	164	1,042	1,169	1,164	1,121	1,125	1,125	50.0	48.2
United States	1,004	1,676	1,620	1,947	2,234	2,117	2,388	2,250	2,440	2,440	145.0	189.7
Cuba	45	114	126	133	958	1,075	1,225	1,735	1,971	1,971	3,548.1	3,888.9
Dominican Republic	80	100	116	113	1,065	1,207	1,155	1,178	1,174	1,174	85.2	122.6
Total	1,423	2,474	2,591	2,910	2,913	2,913	2,769.9	4,581.8	5,031.9	5,031.9	5,031.9	6,083.5
EUROPE												
France	1	7	28	44	1,400	2,586	3,739	3,507	3,571	3,571	1.4	18.1
Greece	5	9	24	48	1,840	2,167	2,938	2,573	3,025	3,025	9.2	19.5
Italy	362	305	358	420	4,677	4,357	4,557	4,405	4,747	4,747	1,692.9	1,328.9
Portugal	47	53	67	74	3,253	3,013	3,982	3,805	3,947	3,947	152.9	159.7
Spain	110	129	143	151	5,600	4,358	4,615	4,636	4,904	4,904	477.0	562.2
Yugoslavia	8	7	6	7	1,300	1,414	2,167	2,286	2,286	2,286	10.4	9.9
Total countries shown	533	510	626	744	787	787	2,342.8	2,098.3	2,746.4	2,746.4	3,125.4	3,125.4
Other Europe	20	49	75	88	75	75	18.8	103.2	146.0	146.0	195.0	195.0
Total Europe	553	559	701	832	879	879	2,372.6	2,201.5	2,892.4	2,892.4	3,320.4	3,320.4
ASIA												
Iran	534	544	530	471	1,566	1,598	1,693	1,671	1,604	1,604	836.0	869.3
Iraq	392	643	521	520	1,283	993	1,058	763	1,048	1,048	503.0	638.4
Turkey	78	56	60	75	2,642	2,452	2,835	2,869	2,869	2,869	206.1	137.3
Burma	12,671	8,704	9,264	9,430	1,238	1,116	1,242	1,230	1,250	1,250	15,683.3	9,715.7
Ceylon	870	964	1,030	1,069	672	584	577	799	799	799	585.0	562.7
China	48,853	45,557	45,700	45,350	2,299	2,219	2,265	2,161	2,204	2,204	110,372.0	101,100.0
Taiwan	1,606	1,640	1,898	1,925	2,394	1,810	2,153	2,182	2,182	2,182	3,845.3	2,968.2
Manchuria	782	600	857	893	1,829	1,752	1,663	1,697	1,707	1,707	1,430.4	1,051.0
Indochina 2/	14,306	12,060	12,100	12,600	1,066	987	992	1,000	1,000	1,000	14,396.0	11,900.0
India	62,590	70,600	75,458	74,500	1,194	1,082	928	1,007	1,007	1,007	74,740.0	76,360.0
Japan	7,862	7,812	7,965	7,940	3,408	3,124	3,330	3,110	3,309	3,309	26,793.1	24,405.0
South Korea	3,838	2,675	2,500	2,555	2,256	2,336	2,587	2,501	2,124	2,124	6,658.3	6,248.8
Malayan Federation	745	831	857	831	1,634	1,567	1,583	1,599	1,599	1,599	1,217.1	1,136.0

ASIA (Continued)														
Java and Madura	9,794:	8,922:	9,850:	9,800:	1,442:	1,325:	1,442:	1,429:	14,126.0:	11,823.0:	14,200.0:	14,000.0:	-	-
Pakistan	18,706:	21,601:	22,401:	22,481:	1,245:	1,245:	1,230:	1,159:	7,724.5:	26,891.9:	27,599.8:	26,046.4:	-	-
Philippine Republic	4,852:	4,963:	5,551:	5,500:	973:	998:	1,031:	1,018:	1,034:	4,719.5:	4,952.8:	5,721.0:	5,600.0:	6,100.0
Thailand	7,088:	10,212:	13,083:	14,061:	1,253:	1,173:	1,143:	1,138:	9,588.5:	11,578.4:	14,950.7:	14,900.0:	15,400.0	-
Total (excl. U.S.S.R.)	201,927:	206,448:	216,759:	217,266:	220,013:	-	-	-	31,544.0:	103,523.8:	311,613.3:	308,970.9:	323,339.3	-
SOUTH AMERICA														
Argentina	52:	102:	117:	138:	2,692:	2,674:	2,656:	3,051:	140.0:	272.7:	310.8:	421.1:	-	-
Brazil	2,323:	4,290:	4,861:	4,600:	1,287:	1,423:	1,443:	1,391:	2,989.1:	6,105.7:	7,015.2:	6,400.0:	-	-
British Guiana	70:	97:	114:	120:	2,289:	2,343:	2,175:	2,250:	160.2:	227.3:	248.0:	270.0:	-	-
Chile	13:	79:	58:	62:	3,515:	2,578:	1,531:	2,903:	45.7:	203.7:	88.8:	180.0:	-	-
Colombia	150:	300:	350:	400:	943:	1,566:	1,518:	1,625:	141.4:	469.8:	531.4:	650.0:	-	-
Ecuador	110:	237:	200:	180:	1,327:	1,358:	1,050:	1,278:	146.0:	321.8:	210.0:	230.0:	-	-
Paraguay	5:	14:	25:	27:	1,760:	2,043:	1,764:	1,778:	8.8:	28.6:	44.1:	48.0:	-	-
Peru	107:	119:	121:	136:	1,897:	3,038:	3,652:	3,529:	203.0:	361.5:	441.9:	480.0:	-	-
Surinam	37:	41:	44:	47:	2,081:	2,490:	2,555:	2,698:	77.0:	102.1:	112.4:	126.8:	128.0	-
Uruguay	13:	29:	31:	33:	2,992:	2,855:	2,616:	3,000:	38.9:	82.8:	81.1:	105.0:	-	-
Venezuela	2:	28:	40:	60:	1,150:	1,200:	1,378:	1,500:	2.3:	33.6:	55.1:	90.0:	-	-
Total	2,903:	5,365:	5,997:	5,841:	6,202:	-	-	-	3,978.5:	3,247.7:	9,184.0:	9,048.1:	9,679.2	-
AFRICA														
Egypt	463:	732:	727:	507:	3,233:	3,347:	3,765:	2,696:	3,125:	1,496.8:	2,450.3:	2,737.5:	1,366.7:	1,250.0
French West Africa	1,562:	-	-	-	603:	-	-	-	-	942.1:	-	-	-	-
Madagascar	1,207:	1,431:	1,605:	1,648:	1,157:	1,176:	1,121:	1,140:	1,396.8:	1,682.5:	1,798.8:	1,878.3:	-	-
Sierra Leone	346:	-	-	-	1,192:	-	-	-	-	412.2:	-	-	-	-
Total	4,392:	7,189:	7,639:	7,868:	8,147:	-	-	-	-	4,957.6:	7,743.5:	8,721.8:	7,824.5:	8,133.3
OCEANIA														
Australia	23:	31:	37:	31:	4,143:	4,042:	4,703:	3,548:	-	95.3:	125.3:	174.0:	110.0:	-
Fiji	10:	29:	-	-	1,940:	1,938:	-	-	-	19.4:	56.2:	-	-	-
Total	40:	95:	107:	102:	108:	-	-	-	-	121.7:	217.2:	267.0:	214.0:	265.0
World total	211,622:	222,518:	234,210:	235,249:	238,727:	-	-	-	-	334,619.4:	326,958.5:	338,630.4:	335,952.5:	352,084.0

1/ Crops harvested in Northern Hemisphere countries during the latter part of the year, together with those harvested in Asia principally from November to May, are combined with crops harvested in Southern Hemisphere countries during the first part of the following year. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Average 1930-34. 4/ Average 1931-37. 5/ The area formerly known as French Indochina is now comprised of the Kingdom of Laos, the Kingdom of Cambodia, and the State of Vietnam. 6/ Korea. In the 1935-39 period, production in South Korea averaged about 6,750 million pounds annually. 7/ Average 1936-37 to 1939-40.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research, and other information.

Increased production is in prospect also for most of the countries where the crop is now in the growing stage and will be harvested mainly in December. These include India, Pakistan, Indochina, Burma, the Philippine Republic, and Ceylon. The rice crop of India, the largest producer, next to China, is reported very good. Statistical information now available from Thailand and Malaya is not adequate to give a comparison between the oncoming and last year's crops; the 1952 rice crop of Thailand, however, is reported as only fair.

Rice acreage is being increased in South America, where most of the crop is just beginning to be planted and will be harvested from March to May of 1953. Should weather be normal, the rice production there will exceed that of the preceding year. In Africa, although the harvest of Egypt declined again in 1952, the Continent's total production will show a gain from that of a year earlier.

With the exception of Egypt, possibly Thailand, and Mexico, rice production in the countries usually having a surplus for export is larger than a year earlier. The total increase in the surplus countries is estimated at more than 2,000 million pounds (1 million short tons) of rough rice. The largest increases in the exporting countries are in Burma, the United States, and possibly Brazil.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U.S. Foreign Service Reports.

(End rice forecast for immediate release).

FINAL 1952 BRAZIL NUT REPORT

The 1952 estimate of Brazil nut production in Brazil has been revised upward to 18,700 short tons, unshelled basis, compared with 34,100 tons in 1951 and 23,200 tons in 1950. The estimate is 6 percent below the 10-year (1941-50) average of 19,900 tons, and 31 percent below the 5-year (1946-50) average of 27,100 tons. It is the smallest estimate since 1945.

The 1952 estimate of production has fluctuated more through the season than any in recent years. It was forecast somewhat larger in January; then each succeeding estimate was lowered until June 30 when it was thought not more than 17,000 tons would be brought out of the jungle. The fluctuations in estimates and, in the final analysis, poor harvest are attributed to poor marketing prospects at the start of the season, cyclical variations in yield of trees and low water in interior streams.

As the season is now about finished, it is estimated about 11,900 short tons were brought in from the Belem area, 6,600 tons in Manaus and the balance from Itacoatiara and Parintins. In the 1951 season collections in Belem were 20,900 tons, Manaus 12,500 tons and the balance of 700 tons in Itacoatiara and Parintins.

BRAZIL NUTS: Estimated commercial production in
Brazil, 1952 with comparisons

(Rounded to nearest 100 short tons)

Year	Bolivia	Brazil	Total
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Average:			
1941-50	1,000	19,900	20,900
1946-50	100	27,100	27,200
Annual:			
1946	100	27,500	27,600
1947	100	30,400	30,500
1948	100	18,900	19,000
1949	200	35,200	35,400
1950	200	23,200	23,400
1951 1/	200	34,100	34,300
1952 2/	200	3/ 18,700	3/ 18,900
1/ Preliminary.	2/ Preliminary forecast.	3/ Revised.	

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, results of office research, Trade and other information.

UNITED STATES: Imports of Brazil nuts

(Crop year, September-August)

Year	Average		Annual		
	1941/42	1946/47	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52
	1950/51	1950/51			
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
	<u>SHELLED</u>				
Brazil	2,565	3,169	4,198	2,470	3,069
Other	32	11	2	32	78
Total	2,597	3,180	4,200	2,502	3,147
	<u>UNSHELLED</u>				
Brazil	7,193	10,799	10,877	4,579	11,870
Other	5	3	0	14	0
Total	7,198	10,802	10,877	4,593	11,870

Compiled from official records of the Bureau of the Census.

According to a report just received there are no unsold stocks of unshelled nuts remaining in Brazil at this time. There are a reported 5,000 cases of shelled in Belem and 300 cases in Manaus awaiting shipment to the United States buyers. There are, for practical purposes, no other nuts available from the 1951 season.

The Brazilian export statistics for the first 9 months of the season indicate 10,886 short tons of unshelled were exported of which the United States was the destination for 7,690 short tons, the United Kingdom 2,343, Western Germany 451 and all other countries 402 tons. The same statistics indicate a total of 2,344 short tons of shelled were exported of which the United States was the destination for 1,878 tons, the United Kingdom 396 and all other 70 tons. The exports during the same period a year earlier were 19,788 tons of unshelled and 2,841 tons of shelled.

Prices were high most of the season for both unshelled and shelled. In June f.o.b. prices per pound for unshelled nuts were $17\frac{1}{2}$ to 25 cents and by August 23 to 25 cents depending on size, quality, etc. The final quotations in October were 23 to 24 cents. The shelled f.o.b. prices which were 57 to 59 cents in June, rose to 59 to 60 cents in August and leveled off at 57 to 62 cents after that month. Generally, Brazilians were satisfied on the returns for unshelled but shelled they claim were sold at too low prices.

After repeated attempts to secure approval of the Brazilian government for barter deals, the Carteira de Exportacao e Importacao of the bank of Brazil gave advance notice of authorization to export up to \$2,700,000 under such deals. This authorization came much too late in the season to have been effective. It is retroactive to September 1, 1952 and runs to December 31, 1952.

The 1953 Brazil nut harvesting season will get underway in a few weeks and there is already considerable speculation as to the size of the crop. At present there is general optimism. The trees are reported heavily laden with nuts, and willing labor is available. Exporters, perhaps unduly optimistic, feel that the government will permit barter deals during 1953. All of these factors combined have ended in forecasts ranging from 27,500 short tons to 33,000 tons, unshelled. It should be remembered in evaluating such forecasts that foreign demand is an important factor in determining the total harvest of Brazil nuts as the other factors mentioned. At this time conservative estimators are forecasting 16,500 short tons unshelled for Belem, 10,500 tons for Manaus and about 500 tons for Itacoatiara and Parintins. The most optimistic have Belem producing 20,300 tons, Manaus 12,100 tons and 600 tons for other areas. -By Walter R. Schreiber.

1952 DRIED FIG PRODUCTION IN SPECIFIED COUNTRIES BELOW LAST YEAR

The 1952 preliminary estimate of dried fig production in Algeria, Argentina, Greece, Italy and Turkey is 122,500 short tons, compared with 125,500 tons (revised) in the same 5 countries in 1951. The estimate is 15 percent below the 10-year (1941-50) average of 144,900 tons and 20 percent below the 5-year (1946-50) average of 154,000 tons.

Information on Portugal and Syria-Lebanon has not been received. If, and when, received the information on these countries will be published as a supplement to this report.

As was true a year earlier there was no carry-over from the 1951 pack in these 5 countries when new-crop figs arrived on the market. the 1951-52 export season ended with an estimated 45,000 tons of the 1951 pack in those countries moving into export channels. Turkey led with 15,869 tons or 35 percent of the total followed by Algeria with 12,911 and Italy 4,000, with the balance for the most part were from Greece. The 45,000 tons represents 36 percent of the 1951 pack in these countries. Exports from Algeria should not be considered in the same light as those from Turkey and Greece, as the bulk went to Metropolitan France and were not strictly competing on an open market. Western Germany and the United Kingdom were the principal destinations for exports from Greece and Turkey. The United States imported a total of 4,567 tons of dried figs during 1951-52, of which 2,059 tons were from Turkey, 1,282 tons from Greece, 665 tons from Portugal and 291 tons from Italy.

The 1952-53 export season started in Greece and Turkey in much the same manner as the previous one. Greek exporters, according to available information at this time, sold close to 3,000 short tons to American buyers early in the season and before the United States duty was raised by 2 cents per pound. The Turkish exporters are reported to have sold 1,100 short tons to the United States. Sales to European countries are being effected but the volume is not spectacular. Turkey is reported to have sold about one-third of its pack by November 1, 1952, or about 7,700 tons. The Greek exporters are expecting to export a total of 7,000 tons to all foreign destinations during the season. They have already sold 3,000 tons of this quantity to the United States. Algeria as usual hopes to sell the bulk of its pack in Metropolitan France. On the basis of information available, thus far it appears Western Germany will again be the principal foreign buyer. The United Kingdom, because of its restrictions on various imports, remains an unknown factor in the fig market at this time. The export market abroad at the moment is not very active.--By Walter R. Schreiber.

FIGS, DRIED: Estimated commercial production in specified countries
1952 with comparisons.

(Rounded to nearest 100 short tons)

Year	Algeria	Argentina	Greece	Italy	Portugal ^{1/}
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Average:					
1941-50	22,100	800	22,100	69,100	10,400
1946-50	30,000	900	25,400	66,000	11,500
Annual:					
1946	22,700	1,300	21,400	60,500	12,100
1947	48,600	1,000	27,800	66,000	11,400
1948	21,600	1,100	26,700	67,500	8,500
1949	34,200	600	26,600	71,800	8,900
1950	22,700	600	24,700	64,400	16,800
1951 ^{2/}	^{3/} 34,000	^{3/} 1,100	^{3/} 23,300	39,600	12,000
1952 ^{2/}	^{4/} 30,800	1,000	26,400	39,000	^{4/}
Year	Syria-Lebanon	Turkey	Foreign total	United States	World total
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Average:					
1941-50	5,800	30,800	161,100	32,400	193,500
1946-50	7,500	31,700	173,000	31,500	204,500
Annual:					
1946	10,900	38,500	167,400	36,600	204,000
1947	9,500	37,400	201,700	38,000	239,700
1948	9,400	35,200	170,000	30,300	200,300
1949	4,200	22,000	168,300	28,400	196,700
1950	3,300	25,300	157,800	24,400	182,200
1951 ^{2/}	4,200	^{3/} 27,500	^{3/} 141,700	^{3/} 30,000	^{3/} 171,700
1952 ^{2/}	^{4/}	25,300	^{2/} 122,500	^{6/} 27,300	^{2/} 149,800

^{1/} Merchantable figs only.

^{2/} Preliminary.

^{3/} Revised.

^{4/} Not yet available.

^{5/} Not including Portugal and Syria-Lebanon.

^{6/} Not official trade estimate only.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, results of office research, Trade and other information.

UNITED STATES: Imports of dried figs

(Crop year, September-August)

Countries	Average		Annual		
	1951/42	1946/47	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52
	1950/51	1950/51			
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Greece.....	695	1,387	1,759	3,310	1,282
Italy.....	79	158	136	134	291
Portugal.....	62	114	73	491	665
Turkey.....	555	749	501	1,057	2,059
Others.....	2	4	1/	8	270
Total.....	1,393	2,412	2,469	5,000	4,567

1/ Less than one-half ton.

Compiled from official sources of the Bureau of the Census.

SWEDEN REPORTS SMALLER
OILSEED HARVEST

Sweden's 1952 oilseed production was estimated as of the first of September at a total of 217,000 short tons from 365,000 acres, according to the American Embassy, Stockholm. This represents a decrease from 1951 of 20 percent in production resulting from a 20-percent acreage decrease.

Statistics for the various oilseed crops are shown in the following tabulation:

Crop	Area		Yield per acre		Production	
	1951	1952	1951	1952 1/	1951	1952 1/
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Pounds	Pounds	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons
Winter rape.....	219.2	160.4	1,481.0	1,623.8	163.1	130.1
Spring rape.....	90.9	46.2	945.7	861.0	43.0	19.8
Turnip rape.....	67.7	61.3	811.9	861.0	26.5	26.5
White mustard.....	33.8	46.2	1,034.9	811.9	15.4	18.7
Flaxseed.....	58.1	50.6	901.1	869.9	2/ 27.6	3/ 22.1
Total.....	469.7	364.7	1,168.8	1,191.1	275.6	217.2

1/ Indicated. 2/ 984,000 bushels. 3/ 787,000 bushels.

American Embassy, Stockholm.

MOZAMBIQUE REPORTS SLUMP IN OILSEED PRODUCTION

Vegetable oilseed production in Mozambique has shown a decided decline throughout 1952, according to the American Consulate General, Lourenco Marques. Little or no improvement from the situation early in the year (see Foreign Crops and Markets, May 19, 1952) is noticed in the production of mafurra and sesame seeds, while a definite decline is observed in the output of copra and peanuts. Thus, while for domestic use the supplies of edible oils from these oilseeds will be down, there will be an increased quantity of oil produced from cottonseed which, in the past, has been largely destroyed.

The Food Supply Section of the Import Control Board of Mozambique has established distribution quotas for each major type of oilseed and nut, primarily to meet the national consumption requirements of Mozambique, Portugal and Portuguese Overseas Territories. The quotas are based on the following reliable estimates of production in the current year: copra (from June 1, 1952 to May 31, 1953)--45,850 short tons; cottonseed (from August 1, 1952 to July 31, 1953)--33,000 tons; peanuts (from June 1, 1952 to May 31, 1953)--11,000 tons; mafurra seed (from April 1, 1952 to March 31, 1953)--5,500 tons; and sesame seed (from June 1, 1952 to May 31, 1953)--1,650 tons.

In 1952 there may be available the following vegetable oilseeds and nuts free of controls: napupa seeds--65 tons; castor beans--2,760 tons; non-specified seeds and nuts (tung nuts, sunflower seed, etc.)--500 tons.

Vegetable oilcake production in 1950, with 1949 output in parentheses, was as follows: cottonseed cake--10,490 (1,850); peanut cake--2,580 (5,075); copra cake--1,845 (3,035); sesame seed cake--330 (250); mafurra cake--1,660 (1,160); castor cake--360 (65); and non-specified cake--5 (80).

Marketing of oilcakes is strictly controlled by the local government.

Trade in vegetable oilseeds, oils and oilcakes has declined. No immediate hopes are evident for improving the situation as domestic conditions through economic controls from Portugal and from the local government have created difficulty for exporters and producers of oilseeds and nuts. Exports of vegetable oilseeds, nuts and their derivatives during 1950 and 1951 are shown in the following tabulation:

	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>
	<u>Short tons</u>	
<u>Oilseeds and nuts</u>		
Cottonseed	20,577	13,167
Peanuts	2,111	1,680
Copra	47,353	41,206
Sesame seed	2,454	1,598
Mafurra fruit	3,209	-
Napupa seed	32	44
Castor beans	4,450	2,212
Non-specified	1,179	466
Total	<u>81,365</u>	<u>60,373</u>
<u>Inedible oils</u>		
Coconut	1,738	1,803
Peanut	77	6
Mafurra	521	55
Castor	186	173
Non-specified	24	48
Total	<u>2,546</u>	<u>2,085</u>
<u>Edible oils</u>		
Coconut	-	2
Peanut	1,095	855
Sesame	3	22
Non-specified	954	312
Total	<u>2,052</u>	<u>1,191</u>
<u>Oilcakes</u>		
Cottonseed	9,456	10,750
Peanut	2,434	210
Copra	693	1,195
Sesame seed	252	13
Mafurra seed	1,313	1,406
Castor bean	191	203
Non-specified	66	-
Total	<u>14,405</u>	<u>13,777</u>
Grand total	<u>100,368</u>	<u>77,426</u>

Source: American Consulate General, Laurengo Marques

Mozambique's imports of vegetable oils consist of small quantities of linseed oil, castor oil, and other non-specified oils for industrial use.

CYPRUS INCREASES FLAXSEED PRODUCTION

Flaxseed production in Cyprus in 1952 is expected to reach 17,000 bushels or 3.7 times the 1951 output, reports S.E. Palmer, Jr., American Consulate, Nicosia. Plantings of 2,030 acres were 14 percent greater than last year, and the weather has been most favorable.

Exports of flaxseed during January-August 1952 amounted to 3,074 bushels compared with 4,462 bushels for the year 1951. Of the total 1951 exports 2,050 bushels went to Belgium. Cyprus imports small quantities of linseed oil, principally from the United Kingdom.

As of October 24, flaxseed was selling for £55 per long ton (\$3.85 per bushel), or about £10 per ton (\$.70 per bushel) less than at the same time last year.

Cyprus also produces small quantities of hempseed--18, 15, and 20 short tons in 1952, 1951, and 1950, respectively.

NICARAGUAN PLANTINGS OF SESAME SEED DOWN SHARPLY

Nicaraguan plantings of sesame seed for the 1952-53 crop have been reduced almost 20 percent from 1951-52 as a consequence of the low price for vegetable oils prevailing in world markets, according to Harry B. Pangburn, American Embassy, Managua. An estimated 41,400 acres have been seeded to this crop. Weather conditions have been excellent and total production by the end of the second harvest in February 1953 is expected to be between 10,000 and 12,000 short tons.

Stocks of sesame seed are small--probably not exceeding 350 tons. This quantity represents the remainder of the small first crop which was harvested in August. Unofficial estimates place this crop at 600 to 750 tons.

Approximately 225 tons of seed from the early crop have been sold at an average price of U.S. \$8.00 per Spanish quintal (\$158 per short ton) f.o.b. Nicaraguan port. There is little activity at present in the futures market. Large scale trading in this commodity ordinarily does not begin until the harvest is under way.

The position of sesame seed as the third most important crop in Nicaraguan agriculture appears to be fairly secure at this time. A reasonably large acreage was seeded to this crop this year despite the fact that the prevailing price was below the level that local growers usually have determined as the necessary minimum for profitable planting of sesame. It appears, therefore, that growers are willing to plant the crop and take their chances on price increases later in the year rather than devote their lands, skills, and equipment to the cultivation of other crops such as cotton, sugar cane, or corn.

Coconut production on the East coast of Nicaragua is definitely on the downgrade due to pests and diseases and to a general lack of interest in the crop. Exports of coconuts, which dropped off sharply in 1952, are expected to decrease even further in 1953. A very small quantity of oil is pressed and used within the country.

Plantings of African oil palm in eastern Nicaragua now total approximately 2,000 acres, of which slightly over 1,400 acres are the property of an American company operating in that area. By the end of 1952 about 1,200 acres will be in production with the remainder not expected to be in production for another 2 or 3 years.

The American company has 2 mills in operation and plans to erect a third mill in early 1953. It expects to produce a total of about 775,000 pounds of palm oil by the end of 1952. Thus far, all the oil produced has been sold locally. However, in the near future, the company expects to export surplus oil to the United States or other world markets.

Other oilseed crops, including castor beans, peanuts, and flaxseed are produced on a relatively small scale in Nicaragua.

INDIA'S WITHDRAWAL
FROM I T M E B

The American Consulate in Calcutta has reported that, effective March 1953, India will withdraw from the International Tea Market Expansion Board. This action is due to the fact that India's financial obligation to the Board has become a heavy burden on the Indian Tea Industry, especially in view of the present crisis in the industry. The total budget of the Board is £ 750,000 (U.S. \$2,100,000) with India's contribution being 50 percent of this amount.

The Calcutta Statesman reports that Pakistan has already withdrawn from the Board and Indonesia's subscription has been reduced since it could not meet their full obligations. Ceylon has remained a member. The editor of this paper suggests that rather than withdraw the Government of India should exercise its majority vote to effect any changes it desires.

It has also been reported by the newspaper Statesman that India proposes to set up her own propaganda organization largely manned by Indians and controlled by a Central Tea Board. This organization would concentrate on the sales of India tea rather than blended tea.

COFFEE PRODUCTION 1952-53 FORECAST
2½ PERCENT GREATER THAN 1951-52 1/

The total world production of coffee for 1952-53 has been forecast at 39,227,000 bags of 132.3 pounds each. This compares with the 1951-52 revised estimate of 38,135,000 bags. The increase in 1952-53 is being forecast in South America and Africa. The specific countries showing increases are Ecuador, Venezuela, Ethiopia and Madagascar.

The consumption of coffee in the producing countries has been forecast at approximately the same level in 1952-53 as existed in 1951-52, with the result that there will be available for export out of the 1952-53 crop approximately 1 million bags more than was available for export from the 1951-52 crop.

1/ More detailed information on coffee production is contained in a Foreign Agriculture Circular soon to be published by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D.C. This, and other Circulars containing information regarding coffee and other tropical products not published in Foreign Crops and Markets are distributed to interested persons in the United States upon request through a special (F C B) mailing list.

GREEK TOBACCO ACREAGE, PRODUCTION LOWER;
EXPORTS HIGHER: BARTER DEAL WITH USSR

Greece's 1952 tobacco acreage is estimated at 20 percent below 1951, while production is reportedly down 32 percent, according to E.V. Harris and C. Souliotis, American Embassy, Athens. Exports of unmanufactured tobacco during January-August 1952 were 33 percent above the exports during the corresponding 1951 period. It is reported that Greece and the Soviet Union have a barter deal arrangement which involves about 9 million pounds of tobacco.

The country's 1952 tobacco production is preliminarily estimated at 93.2 million pounds as compared with 137.1 million pounds in 1951 and 110.2 million pounds in 1950. This season's decrease is attributed primarily to a combination of a decrease in acreage planted to tobacco and unfavorable growing conditions in some producing areas. However, the quality of the leaf is reported as above average. The acreage decrease was due largely to the 5 following factors: low prices received for the 1951 crop; delay in liquidating the 1951 crop; exceptionally large stocks on hand; adverse weather conditions at planting time; and the delay in receiving so-called cultivation loans. These conditions caused many growers not to plant this year, thus reducing the number of tobacco growers to 115,897 compared with 141,927 in 1951 and 141,000 in 1950.

Exports of unmanufactured tobacco during January-August 1952 totaled 50.8 million pounds as compared with only 38.3 million pounds during the corresponding 1951 period. Germany, the largest 1952 export outlet, took 20.8 million pounds, or 41 percent of the total. The United States ranked second, taking 8.3 million pounds, France third, 5.5 million, Austria, fourth, 3.8 million, and Egypt, fifth, with 2.5 million pounds. The remaining 9.9 million pounds was taken by numerous countries including Belgium, Denmark, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, Italy, Sweden, Norway, Finland, the Netherlands, and Portugal. The 1952 exports to Germany are believed to end eventually in Eastern Germany, as there is a triangular trade agreement with Western Germany which provides for the export of Greek tobacco to Eastern Germany. The payment for the tobacco is made by exchange of goods from Western Germany.

Unofficial reports received from Greece indicate that tobacco buyers from the U.S.S.R. have been in Greece negotiating with Greek tobacco merchants for tobacco through barter arrangements. It is reported that the U.S.S.R. and a Greek merchant have a barter arrangement in which the U.S.S.R. will get about 9 million pounds of Greek tobacco in exchange principally for timber, fertilizer, and sewing machines. However, the prices of these exchange items are higher than the same or similar items would be from other sources. This merchant originally requested the Greek Government to allocate 1.6 million pounds sterling for the purchase of Russian products. However, the Government made a tentative allocation of 600,000 pounds sterling. The total amount released so far is only 11,000 pounds sterling or less than 2 percent of the allocation.

BRAZIL REPORTS LARGE SUPPLY OF EDIBLE OILS 1/

During the 1952-53 season, Brazil expects to have the largest supply of edible oils it has had in recent years and should again be able to export sizable quantities. The improved supply position is due largely to a 45 percent increase in cottonseed production but small increases also have occurred in the production of peanuts and soybeans. Conversely, production of inedible oilseed crops as a whole decreased from 1951.

BRAZIL: Production of specified oilseeds, 1952 with comparisons

(Short tons)

Commodity	:Average :1935-39	: 1949	: 1950	: 1951 1/	:Forecast :1952 2/
Cottonseed.....	987,440:2/	727,500:1/	700,000:	628,300:	903,900
Castor beans.....	148,000:	221,760:3/ 4/	202,820:3/ 4/	192,900:	192,900
Babassu kernels.....	46,250:2/	66,000:2/	77,000:	82,670:	44,000
Peanuts 4/.....	5/ 14,760:	149,600:3/	130,280:	166,450:	169,750
Oiticica seed.....	6/ 23,900:2/	9,920:2/	40,800:	33,000:	16,500
Flaxseed 7/ 8/.....	- :	44,090:3/	27,560:	17,640:	-
Sesame seed 9/.....	- :	4,870:	5,510:	5,730:	1,760
Soybeans 7/ 10/.....	- :	25,350:	38,600:	67,240:	71,600
Tucum nuts 2/.....	11/ 3,108:	15,430:	8,270:	9,590:	4,960
Tung fruit 4/.....	430:	9,300:	7,200:	7,460:	7,700
Ouricuri nuts.....	3,540:4/	2,870:3/ 4/	6,700:	4,960:	1,320

1/ Revised unofficial. 2/ Unofficial except as noted. 3/ Revised. 4/ Ministry of Agriculture. 5/ 1939 only. 6/ 1937-39. 7/ Official state estimates for Rio Grande do Sul. 8/ Equivalent in 1,000 bushels: 1949--1,575; 1950--984; 1951--630. 9/ Official state estimates for Sao Paulo. 10/ Equivalent in 1,000 bushels: 1949--845; 1950--1,286; 1951--2,240; 1952--2,390. 11/ Exports.

Compiled from official and unofficial sources.

Cottonseed production in 1952 is now forecast at roughly 900,000 short tons. Prices of seed cotton are expected to be lower for the 1953 harvest and the area being planted in South Brazil is reported to be from 20 to 30 percent under last year.

A record soybean harvest of almost 2.4 million bushels is reported for Rio Grande do Sul where the major portion of Brazil's soybeans is produced. Plantings in September and October for the 1953 harvest are estimated at about 173,000 acres compared with 145,950 acres planted in 1951.

1/ A more extensive statement will soon be published as a Foreign Agriculture Circular available from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

A slight increase occurred in 1952 peanut production, estimated at about 170,000 tons. Favorable prices and good demand are expected to result in a moderate increase in area planted in 1952-53.

The babassu harvest of 44,000 tons in 1951-52 was one of the smallest in recent years and has not been sufficient to meet domestic demand. As a result, domestic prices have reached the highest level on record and are far above the general level of world prices of fats and oils. The 1952-53 harvest also is expected to be low and may all be taken by the local market with very little available for export.

Castor bean production is again reported to be small because of dry weather in the northeast, insect damage, and low prices. The crop is unofficially estimated at around 193,000 tons, the same as in 1951. Reports indicate that farmers are changing from castor beans to cotton which requires less labor and has a relatively high government support price. From present indications very little increase can be expected in castor bean production in 1953.

Oiticica, tucum and ouricuri harvests also were very small due largely to dry weather in northeast Brazil the past 3 years and low prices. Only moderate increases are expected in the 1953 harvest. Tung production is estimated at about the same as in 1951.

The flaxseed crop harvested in December 1951 through February 1952 is now estimated at 630,000 bushels. If normal growing weather prevails this season, the 1952-53 harvest may reach almost 1.2 million bushels.

BELGIAN IMPORTS OF RAW COTTON CONTINUE ON LOW LEVEL

Imports of raw cotton into Belgium during August 1952 totaled 17,000 bales (500 pounds gross), an increase of 2,000 bales over the preceding month but 13,000 bales below a year earlier (August 1951). About one-third of the August 1952 imports originated in the United States. Imports during the past season (1951-52) totaled 440,000 bales, about 70 percent of which originated in the United States, compared with 454,000 bales (159,000 from the United States) during 1950-51.

The decline in consumption of raw cotton in Belgian spinning mills during the last half of the 1951-52 season has continued into the current season, with consumption reported at only 24,700 bales compared with 38,400 bales in August 1951 and a monthly average of 34,400 in 1951-52. During August 1952, the last month for which official statistics are available, the production of cotton yarn (13.9 million pounds) and of cotton fabric (9.2 million pounds) was 34 percent and 26 percent, respectively, below August 1951.

Stocks of cotton yarn at spinning mills on August 31, 1952, totaled 15.4 million pounds, an increase of 2.3 million pounds over a year earlier, but yarn stocks held by weavers on this date, 12.5 million pounds, were 6.8 million pounds below the quantities held on August 31, 1951, as weavers continued a policy of cautious buying.

Stocks of raw cotton on hand at the beginning of the current season (August 1, 1952) amounted to 118,000 bales (500 pounds gross), an increase of 4,000 bales over the amounts held a year earlier. These stocks were reduced to 111,000 bales by the end of August 1952 but still provide ample working stocks in view of the present low rate of mill activity.

COTTON PLANTING SEED INDUSTRY IN MATAMOROS AREA OF MEXICO EXPANDING

In the Matamoros area of Mexico the preservation and sale of cotton-seed for planting has expanded into a \$1,000,000 to \$1,200,000 (U.S. currency) per annum business. The availability of locally-grown certified seed enables Mexican farmers to purchase such seed at about \$20.00 per ton less than the cost of imported seed. The demand for large quantities of registered seed, which is required for producing certified seed, affords a market for United States exporters.

Cotton acreage in the Matamoros area (including Reynosa) increased almost 300 percent between 1939 and 1946. During this period there was a strong demand in Mexico for cottonseed for crushing purposes. Thus, for a time the Matamoros area became almost entirely dependent on the United States, the only source of foreign supply, for the seed required to plant these larger acreages. Inasmuch as the supply of planting seed cotton in the United States is usually limited, it became increasingly difficult to obtain adequate supplies from this country. In 1946 Matamoros growers were unable to obtain sufficient certified seed to meet their needs and were forced to use considerable amounts of substandard seed. This situation prompted the establishment in 1947 of the Association of Cotton Planting Seed Producers. The primary objective of this Association was to encourage the local production of most of the certified seed needed in the Matamoros area. No plans were made for producing registered seed, which are purchased primarily from the United States. In 1951-52 about two-thirds of the imported registered seed came from Georgia.

The Association was supported by local cotton companies, government banks which financed community farming projects, and independent farmers. In addition, technicians from the United States cooperated in the organization and early work of the Association. In December 1950 the Association became a member of the International Seed Growers Association, the fourth Latin American country to be admitted to this organization. Other Latin American countries are Cuba, Brazil, and Venezuela.

Membership in the Matamoros Association has increased 400 percent since 1947 and now totals 1,115 members. This includes 35 independent farmers and 1,080 members who receive financial assistance from others, i.e., government banks (517 members), credit unions (149 members), and cotton companies (414 members). Registered seed are sold to growers at the same price as certified seed to encourage use of the latter for planting. Expansion of the Association's work is reflected in the increased acreage and production of certified seed during recent years. The acreage increased from about 16,800 acres in 1947 to 71,600 in 1952. The 1952 production increased to 7,000 metric tons from 1,200 tons in 1947. Small quantities of this seed have been sold to other areas in Mexico. Certified cottonseed may not be exported unless the Association certifies that a surplus quantity (over the Mexican farmers' needs) exists.

Several steps are taken to assure full compliance with the rules of the Association. These consist of making germination tests on all registered planting seed before they are planted, approval of acreages to be used, inspectors' check for proper cultivation and irrigation methods, cross-pollination, etc. Before cotton is ginned, inspectors check the gins to be sure that all other cottonseed have been removed from the machinery before this cotton is ginned. Germination tests are then made and appropriate tags, indicating the results of these tests, are issued to growers.

Even though the production of certified seed in Matamoros is increasing rapidly, it is still necessary to import rather large quantities from the United States. It now appears that about 3,000 or 4,000 tons will be imported to meet the needs for next year's plantings. The local supply consists of the 1952-53 production of 7,000 tons plus about 2,000 tons from the 1951-52 crop, which was not planted last year because of drought. It seems likely that about 2,000 tons of this year's crop may not meet certification standards because of the damage from heavy infestation of pink bollworm. Replacement of this amount by additional imports may be necessary unless these substandard seed are used for planting.

Another seed producers' association (United Farmers) was formed just prior to the beginning of the 1952-53 season. It is anticipated that production of cottonseed by the members of this organization during the current season will total about 500 tons.

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The Government of Burma recently released its second forecast of the 1952-53 cotton acreage. It placed the acreage for harvest at 247,000 acres, an increase of 7,000 acres over the final estimate for last season. The 1952-53 production is expected to be slightly lower than the 1951-52 crop of 75,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross).

1952-53 COTTON LOAN
PROGRAM IN EGYPT

The Government of Egypt on October 22, 1952, published details of the 1952-53 cotton-loan program, plans for which were announced on August 28. The Government has agreed to guarantee loans to growers through the Agricultural Cooperative Credit Bank up to a total of £E15 million (\$42,790,000). The schedule of loan prices by variety and grade together with spot quotations on October 18 for comparison are shown in terms of U.S. currency equivalents in the following table:

Loan prices for 1952-53 Egyptian cotton and spot prices
on October 18, 1952; by varieties and grades

(In U.S. cents per pound)

Variety and grade	Loan rate	Spot market 10-18-52	Variety and grade	Loan rate	Spot market 10-18-52
<u>Karnak</u>			<u>Zagora</u>		
Good Fair	17.05	-	Good Fair	13.87	-
GF/FGF	19.07	-	GF/FGF	15.90	-
FGF	22.25	-	FGF	19.07	-
FGF/G	26.59	-	FGF/G	23.41	-
Good	31.79	39.39	Good	28.90	34.83
G/FG	32.95	41.56	G/FG	29.77	35.26
FG	35.55	43.29	FG	32.37	-
<u>Menoufi & Giza (45)</u>			<u>Giza (30)</u>		
Good Fair	16.47	-	Good Fair	13.87	-
GF/FGF	17.63	-	GF/FGF	15.90	-
FGF	20.23	-	FGF	19.07	-
FGF/G	23.41	-	FGF/G	23.41	-
Good	28.90	37.37	Good	29.77	36.13
G/FG	29.77	39.68	G/FG	30.92	37.86
FG	32.37	41.99	FG	31.79	39.59
<u>Ashmouni & Giza (31)</u>					
Good Fair	13.87	-			
GF/FGF	15.90	-			
FGF	19.07	32.37			
FGF/G	26.30	33.53			
Good	28.90	34.25			
G/FG	29.77	34.68			
FG	32.37	36.70			

WORLD COTTON PRICES

Spot cotton-price quotations on certain world markets
converted at current rates of exchange

Market location, kind, and quality	Date 1952	Unit of weight	Unit of currency	Price in foreign currency	Equiv. US¢ a lb. Spot quo- tation	Export & intermedi- ate taxes
<u>Egypt, Alexandria</u>		: Kantar				
Ashmouni, FG.....	11-6	: 99.05 lbs.	: Tallari	: 61.05	: 35.39	: 5.91
Ashmouni, Good.....	"	: "	: "	: 56.55	: 32.78	: 5.91
Ashmouni, FGF.....	"	: "	: "	: 53.05	: 30.75	: 5.91
Karnak, FG.....	"	: "	: "	: 71.85	: 41.65	: 8.81
Karnak, Good.....	"	: "	: "	: 64.35	: 37.30	: 8.81
Karnak, FGF.....	"	: "	: "	: 57.85	: 33.53	: 8.81
<u>India, Bombay</u>		: Candy				
Jarila, Fine.....	"	: 784 lbs.	: Rupee	: 1/ 650.00	: 17.40	: 10.70
Broach Vijay, Fine...	"	: "	: "	: 2/ 770.00	: 20.61	: 10.70
<u>Pakistan, Karachi</u>		: Maund				
4F Punjab, SG, Fine...	11-5	: 82.28 lbs.	: "	: 70.00	: 25.67	: 6.93
289F Sind, SG, Fine...	"	: "	: "	: 74.00	: 27.13	: 6.93
289F Punjab, SG, Fine:	"	: "	: "	: 74.00	: 27.13	: 6.93
<u>Turkey, Izmir</u>		: Kilogram				
Acala I.....	11-6	: 2.2046 lbs.	: Kurus	: 3/ 249.00	: 40.34	: -----
Acala II.....	"	: "	: "	: 3/ 230.00	: 37.26	: -----
<u>Turkey, Adana</u>		: "				
Acala I.....	"	: "	: "	: 3/ 222.00	: 35.96	: -----
<u>Peru, Lima</u>		: Sp. quintal				
Tanguis, Type 3-1/2...	11-4	: 101.4 lbs.	: Sol	: 490.00	: 31.23	: 7.31
Tanguis, Type 5.....	"	: "	: "	: 468.00	: 29.83	: 5.88
Pima, Type 1.....	"	: "	: "	(not quoted)		
<u>Brazil, Sao Paulo</u>		: Arroba	: Cruzeiro			
Sao Paulo, Type 5....		: 33.07 lbs.	: "			
<u>Mexico, Matamoros</u>		: "				
Middling, 1-1/32".....	11-6	: Pound	: Cent(US)	: 4/5/ XXXX	: 35.10	: -----
<u>Mexico, Torreon</u>		: Sp. quintal				
Middling, 15/16".....	"	: 101.4 lbs.	: Peso	: 233.00	: 26.69	: 4.80
<u>U.S.A., Houston-Gal-</u>		: "				
veston-New Orleans av:		: "				
Middling, 15/16".....	"	: Pound	: Cent	: XXXXX	: 35.35	: -----

Quotations of foreign markets and taxes reported by cable from U.S. Foreign Service posts abroad. U.S. quotations from designated spot markets.

1/ Reported 650.00 to 690.00 (18.47). Ceiling 820.00 (21.95).

2/ Reported 770.00 to 785.00 (21.01). Ceiling 925.00 (24.76).

3/ Omitted from last week's table: Izmir, October 29, 1952, in kurus per kilogram with U.S. cents per pound in parentheses, Acala I, 247.00 (40.01); Acala II, not available. Adana, Acala I, 220.00 (35.64).

4/ Nominal.

5/ Price is for Matamoros District cotton delivered uncompressed, ex-warehouse, Brownsville, Texas, Mexican export taxes paid. For shipside H/D add 0.64 cent a pound.